

## **FLOODING IN EASTERN MONTANA**

The spring flood season is upon us, and the National Weather Service in Glasgow reminds you to be aware of the following flood related definitions.

If a flood or flash flood watch is issued, there is a developing threat of significant flooding, but the occurrence is neither certain nor imminent.

If a flood warning is issued, flooding is expected on a river or stream with usually six hours or more notice and roads, bridges and property near the river or stream will likely be affected

A rivers flood stage is the height at which it begins flooding.

If a flash flood warning is issued, rapid rising flood waters and debris flows can occur in less than six hours and roads, property and even lives will be affected.

If a flood advisory is issued, nuisance flooding is expected on roadways and in fields, and will be an inconvenience to travelers and property owners.

Flooding is most often the result of:

- \* Winter or spring rains accompanied by melting snow
- \* Early warming causing rapid snowmelt
- \* Excessive rainfall from thunderstorms

Flash flooding in eastern Montana is usually associated with brief periods of heavy rain associated with thunderstorms. If you encounter flooded roads, do not cross over them. And be especially cautious at night, when it is harder to see. Remember, if there is flooding across a roadway: Turn Around, Don't Drown.

(Friday, April 21 PSA)